

TENSE EXCHANGES

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Tense exchanges occur when the past and present tenses of the same verb lock on to, or interlock with, another letter or letters to make two other words. Thus FALL and FELL appear in FALLOW and FELLOW, locked on to -OW; RUN and RAN appear in RUIN and RAIN, interlocked with -I. The tenses always appear in the same position(s) in the two words. Past tenses ending with -ED are excluded. Occasionally, the two whole words which incorporate the two tenses form two other tenses themselves, as in the case of STRIDE and STRODE. Such examples are asterisked*. The present tense is given first. Tense exchanges can be categorized according to where the tenses appear in the words.

TENSE BEGINNINGS

BINDER - BOUNDER

FEELING - FELTING

FLYE (fly) - FLEWE (flue)

GRINDER - GROUNDER

GROWT (grout) - GREWT (groot = soil)

HANGER - HUNGER

LEADER - LEDER (an old form of 'leader' and 'leather')

MAKEN (make) - MADEN (maiden)

RUNT - RANT RUNG - RANG RUNCH (wild mustard) - RANCH

SEEN - SAWN SEEING - SAWING

SELLER - SOLDER

SITE - SATE

SLIDES - SLIDS (sleds)

SPINK (the yellow-hammer) - SPUNK

SPITE - SPATE

STINKARD (one who stinks) - STUNKARD (sulky, sullen)

TEACHEN (teach) - TAUGHTEN (= tauten, to tighten)

WINDED - WOUNDED

TENSE ENDINGS

SHARE - SHWERE (swear) TARE - TWERE (= tuyere, the nozzle through which the blast is forced into a forge or furnace)

TURBITE (a fossil turbine shell) - TURBIT (var. of domestic pigeon) DEBITE (a deputy) - DEBIT

UNDO - UNDID*

FEAT - FATE GREAT - GRATE HEAT - HATE MEAT - MATE PLEAT - PLATE SEAT - SATE

SAGO - SAWENT (an old form of 'seven')

SHAVE - SHAD (any clupeoid of the genus *Alosa*)

SHEAR - SHEARD (shard = a cleft, gap)

RELAY - RELAID

CLEAVE - CLEFT

RELEND - RELENT

SLIGHT - SLIT FLIGHT - FLIT

GLOSE (gloze - an exposition) - GLOST (a lead glaze)

TREND - TRENT

PRISE - PROSE

RESEND - RESENT ASSEND (ascend) - ASSENT

LAPSING - LAPSANG (Souchong)

ASLEEP - ASLEPT

STAKE - STOOK MISTAKE - MISTOOK*

SWEEP - SWEPT* (phrase)

SWEAR - SWORE*

TENSE IN THE MIDDLE

POARED (pored, as in pored over a book) - POWERED

MEATY - MATEY

STRINGER - STRANGER

BRUNCH - BRANCH GRUNGE - GRANGE DRUNK - DRANK GRUNT - GRANT

CRISPITE (a kind of Rutile, an ore of titanium = Sagenite) - CRISPATE (having a curled margin – in Botany and Zoology)

TOO TENSE

Each tense is split into 2 groups of 1 or more letters which interlock with the remaining letters.

FLINDER - FLOUNDER

SITS - SWATS

BRUIN - BRAIN

SMITHER (a smith, smithier; a handyman) - SMOTHER

STORY - STORIED

STREAKED - STROKED

EXTREMELY TENSE

Each tense is split into 2 groups of 1 or more letters which form the beginning and end of the word.

BRID (bird, bred) - BRADE (braid)

BRUY (OF. bride) - BROUGHT

CLATCH (clutch= a brood) - CLAUGHT (a sudden snatch)

CLICKING - CLUCKING

FREED - FRED (phrase)

FRIGHT - FROUGHT (fraught)

FLITING (wrangling) - FLUTING FLITTERING - FLUTTERING

GRIVE (grieve) - GRAVE

HANS - HAND

STAY - STAID (phrase)

SPEND - SPENT*

STING - STUNG* SICKLING - SUCKLING

STINK - STANK*

SILT - SALT, SPIT - SPAT* SLIT - SLAT

SLIMMING - SLUMMING

STINTING - STUNTING or STINTING - STUNTING

WRITHE - WROTHe (adv. wrothly, angrily)

TENSE ALL OVER

Each tense is split into 3 individual letters which interlock with the remaining letters.

GREAT - GROAT

HEARS - HEARD* HOARS - HOARD

SHIFT - SHAFT (phrase)

HIGHLY STRUNG

The same two words may incorporate two or more different pairs of tenses. They really are highly strung!

2 different pairs of tenses:

PLAY - PLAID PLAY - PLAID

SLINKER - SLUNKER (a spent female sturgeon) SLINKER - SLUNKER

SPRING - SPRUNG* SPRING - SPRUNG

SPRITE - SPRATE, SPRITE - SPRATE (sprat)

STICKLING (stickleback) - STUCKLING STICKLING - STUCKLING

STIFFING - STUFFING STIFFING - STUFFING

SWILING (sealing = catching seals) - SWULING (suling = ploughing) SWILING - SWULING

3 different pairs of tenses:

STRING - STRUNG* STRING - STRUNG STRING - STRUNG